NOTE XXI.

A NEW SPECIES OF THE COLEOPTEROUS GENUS TRITOMIDEA, MOTSCH.

DESCRIBED BY

the Rev. H. S. GORHAM.

Tritomidea is the Eastern and Tropical representative of the Palæarctic genus *Tritoma* [1]) from which it is distinguished by the form of the maxillary palpi which have the apical joint dilated as in some *Triplax*. The antennae have the terminal joint of the club smaller than that preceeding it. *Spondotriplax* Crotch, to which the insect here described has also some affinity, has the terminal joint larger, and the club is longer, and the third joint of the antennae is longer. *Euxestus* Woll. is the Atlantic type.

Tritomidea atripennis, sp. n.

Ovata, laete fulva, fere glabra, antennarum clava elytrisque nigris, his cœruleo micantibus, striatopunctatis, interstitiis leviter minute punctatis. — Long. 4—$4^3/_4$ millim.

---

1) *Cyrtotriplax* Crotch (Ent. Mo. Mag. IX. p. 189. — Trans. Am. Ent. Soc. 1873. p. 355) is a mere substitution for *Tritoma* Fabr., of which the type is *T. bipustulata* F., on the ground of its not being the *Tritoma* of Geoffroy. — Geoffroy, as is well known, does not employ specific names, but his figure (tab. VI, fig. 2) evidently represents the insect known as *Mycetophagus quadrimustulatus*. but he figured the tarsi with three joints, instead of, as they are, with four; and states that it was (as he supposed) on this account that the French applied the name „La Tritome" to the insect! Geoffroy was as likely to be wrong about the application of a popular term as he was about the number of joints in the tarsi, and until naturalists adopt *Tritoma* for the *Mycetophagus*, the change of name fails in justification. — *Tritoma* was used in Botany by Ker subsequently, in 1801.

Hab. Sumatra: Loeboe Tarab and Silago (Sum. Exp.).

Entirely bright ferruginous-red with the exception of the club of the antennae and the elytra, which are bluish-black. The head and thorax are minutely but distinctly punctured. The front angles of the thorax are neither very prominent nor much depressed, it is very smooth and glabrous, the minute punctures being only distinct under a $^1/_4$ inch focus. The elytra are distinctly but finely striate-punctate, there being about eight of the series on each elytron; that nearest the margin is shortened towards the shoulder, nearly all continue to near the apex where they unite, but the central ones vanish. — Two specimens.

Var.? *Scutello nigro, elytris nigris haud cærulescentibus.*

Hab. Sumatra: Mesauw (Sum. Exp.).

This, I think, may be a distinct species, but there is only one specimen.

Southampton, 30th April 1885.